



Urban District Council of Rishton.

ABRIDGED
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
INCLUDING
DETAILS OF WORK DONE BY THE
SANITARY INSPECTOR
for the District of Rishton for the
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1950.

COUNCIL OFFICES,
RISHTON.

August, 1951.

To the Chairman and Members
OF THE
Urban District Council of Rishton.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Interim Report on the Health and Sanitary Administration of Rishton for the year ended 31st December, 1950.

The various rates in this Report are based upon the Registrar-General's estimate of the population for the mid-year, 1950.

The estimated population is 5,926, which is higher than last year, when the population was estimated to be 5,832.

The birth rate is lower, being 13.7 per 1,000 and is a decrease on 1949, when the birth rate was 15.4 per 1,000. (The rate for England and Wales = 15.8 per 1,000).

The death rate is lower than last year, being 14.3 per 1,000, when the death rate was 14.9. It is higher than the death rate for the whole of the country, which is 11.6 per 1,000. The adjusted death rate is 13.6; the compatibility factor is 0.91).

The infantile mortality rate is higher than last year, being 37 per 1,000 live births. This is an increase of 15 over last year, when the figure was 22 per 1,000 live births.

The death rate from Tuberculosis of the respiratory system is 0.34 for 1950, as against 0.34 for last year.

The death rate from cancer was 2.23 per 1,000 of population, as against 2.23 last year.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Typhoid	0	0	0
Cerebro-Spinal Fevers	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	0	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0	0
Tuberculosis (Respiratory System) ...	1	1	2
Other Forms of T.B.	0	0	0
Syphilitic Diseases	0	0	0
Measles	0	0	0
Ac. Inf. Encpt.	0	0	0
Influenza	0	0	0
Cancer (all forms)	4	2	6
Diabetes	1	1	2
Inter-cranial Vascular Lesions... ..	7	11	18
Heart Disease	14	14	28
Other Circulatory Diseases	0	1	1
Pneumonia (all forms)... ..	0	1	1
Bronchitis	7	6	13
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	0	1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	2	0	2
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	0	0	0
Appendicitis	0	0	0
Other Digestive Diseases	0	0	0
Nephritis	0	2	2
Hyper-plasia of Prostate	2	0	2
Premature Birth	0	0	0
Other Maternal Causes	0	0	0
Congenital Debility and Malformation	0	0	0
Suicide	0	0	0
Road Traffic Act	0	0	0
Other Deaths from Violence	0	1	1
All Other Causes	5	9	14
	44	49	93
Total Deaths under 1 year... ..	2	0	2
Legitimate	1	0	1
Illegitimate	1	0	1
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks ...	1	0	1
Legitimate	1	0	1
Illegitimate	0	0	0

The absence of deaths from diarrhoea (under 2 years) and from diphtheria, whooping cough, and measles is pleasant to record as these are major killing diseases in young children.

Birth Rates, Death Rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case Rates for Certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1950. Provisional figures based on Quarterly Returns.

RATES PER 1,000 HOME POPULATION									
			England and Wales.		126 C.Bs. and Great Towns, including London.		148 Smaller Towns, Resident Pop. 25000-50000 at 1931 Census.		London Adm. County
BIRTHS—									
Live Births	...	...	15.80	...	17.60	...	16.70	...	17.80
Still Births	...	...	0.37	...	0.45	...	0.38	...	0.36
DEATHS—									
All Causes	...	...	11.60	...	12.30	...	11.60	...	11.80
Typhoid and Para-									
typhoid	...	...	0.00	...	0.00	...	0.00	...	0.00
Whooping Cough	...		0.01	...	0.01	...	0.01	...	0.01
Diphtheria...	...	...	0.00	...	0.00	...	0.00	...	0.00
Tuberculosis	...	...	0.36	...	0.42	...	0.33	...	0.39
Influenza	...	...	0.10	...	0.09	...	0.10	...	0.07
Smallpox	...	...	0.00	...	0.00	...	0.00	...	0.00
Acute Poliomyelitis									
(including									
Polioencephalitis)	...		0.02	...	0.02	...	0.02	...	0.01
Pneumonia	...	...	0.46	...	0.49	...	0.10	...	0.48
NOTIFICATIONS (CORRECTED)—									
Typhoid Fever	...		0.00	...	0.00	...	0.00	...	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever	.		0.01	...	0.01	...	0.01	...	0.01
Meningococcal									
Infection	...	...	0.03	...	0.03	...	0.02	...	0.03
Scarlet Fever	...	...	1.50	...	1.56	...	1.61	...	1.23
Whooping Cough	...		3.60	...	3.97	...	3.15	...	3.21
Diphtheria	...	...	0.02	...	0.03	...	0.02	...	0.02
Erysypelas	...	...	0.17	...	0.19	...	0.16	...	0.17
Smallpox	...	...	0.00	...	0.00	...	0.00	...	0.00
Measles	...	...	8.39	...	8.76	...	8.36	...	8.57
Pneumonia	...	...	0.70	...	0.77	...	0.61	...	0.50
Acute Poliomyelitis									
(including Polioencephalitis)									
Paralytic	...	...	0.13	...	0.12	...	0.11	...	0.08
Non-Paralytic	..		0.05	...	0.05	...	0.06	...	0.05
Food Poisoning	...		0.17	...	0.16	...	0.14	...	0.25

DEATHS—		Rates per 1,000 Live Births						
All causes under								
1 year of age ...	29.8*	...	33.80	...	29.40	...	26.30	
Enteritis and Diarrhœa								
2 years of age ...	1.90	...	2.20	...	1.60	...	1.00	

NOTIFICATIONS (CORRECTED)—										
Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births										
Puerperal Fever and										
Pyrexia	...	...	...	5.81	...	7.43	...	4.33	...	6.03

MATERNAL MORTALITY IN ENGLAND AND WALES—

		Rates per 1000 Total (Live and Still) Births		Rates per million women aged 15-44	
651.	Abortion with Sepsis	...	0.09	...	7
650, 652.	Other Abortion	...	0.05	...	4
640-649, 670-678.	Complication of Pregnancy and Delivery	...	0.50	...	—
681.	Sepsis of Childbirth and the Puerperium	...	0.03	...	...
680, 682-689.	Other complications of the puerperium	...	0.15	...	...

* Per 1,000 related live births.

Vital Statistics—

Home Population—Registrar-General's estimate, mid-1950 : 5926

Live Births—						Estimated.	
		Total.	M.	F.	Birth rate per 1,000 esti- mated population mid-1950 :		
Legitimate	..	75	36	39	Crude...	13.2	
Illegitimate	..	3	1	2	Adjusted ..	13.7	
		—	—	—			
Total	.. ..	78	37	41	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 37	
		—	—	—			
Stillbirths	.. ..	3	2	1	Death rate per 1,000 esti- mated population ..	
Deaths	.. ..	93	44	49	Crude...	15.7
					Adjusted ..	14.3	
					Death rate per 1,000 total (live and still births)		
Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	.. ..	—			Deaths.	Nil
Other Maternal Causes	.. ..	—				Nil
		—					
Total Maternity mortality	.. ..	—				Nil

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :

All Infants per 1,000 live births	26
-Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	13
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	333
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	13
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	Nil

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Scarlet Fever

No cases were notified during 1950.

Diphtheria

No cases were notified for the eighth year in succession. Immunisation of children is carried out by the Lancashire County Council at their Barnfield House Clinic.

Enteric (including Paratyphoid) Fever

No cases were notified in 1950

Measles, Whooping Cough, Chicken-pox, etc.

There was no marked incidence of these diseases during the year, with the exception of a mild outbreak of whooping cough.

Smallpox

No cases of smallpox occurred during the year, and no action was necessary under the Smallpox Prevention Regulations, 1917.

Public Health (Infectious Disease) Regulations, 1927

Eigh cases of acute primary and acute influenzal pneumonia were notified.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Area in Acres	2878.4
Population Estimated, mid-1950	5,926
Population (Estimated, mid-1949)	5,832
Number of inhabited houses—(a) Census, 1931	1,631
(b) End of 1950, according to rate books	1,942
Rateable Value	£34,146
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£133

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Social Conditions and Chief Industries in the Area.

The inhabitants are of good working class. The principal trades are cotton, felt and carpet weaving, and paper making.

There have been no specially noteworthy cases of sickness or invalidity during the year, nor do there appear to be any conditions or occupations or environment which have been prejudicial to health.

I am indebted to the Sanitary Inspector for his help during the year.

I also wish to express my thanks to the Chairman and members of the Committee, together with the Clerk of the Council and all other officials for their valuable assistance during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) R. C. WEBSTER,

Medical Officer of Health.

Report of the Sanitary Inspector

For the Year ended 31st December, 1950

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit a report of the work done in the Sanitary Department during the year 1950.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Public Health Officers of the Council.

Medical Officer of Health : Dr. R. C. Webster, B.Sc., M.D., D.P.H., D.C.H. Part-time Officer. Salary contributed to.

Sanitary Inspector : C. Woodcock, Certified Inspector of Meat and Other Foods, Certified in the carrying out of Meat and Sanitary Inspector's duties. Whole-time Officer. Salary contributed to.

Laboratory Facilities.

Pathological and bacteriological examinations are carried out at the Health Laboratory, Blackburn, with the exception of sputum examinations for Tuberculosis, these being examined at the Tuberculosis Dispensary, Accrington.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

Situation.	Accommodation by whom provided.	
Chief Centre— High Street, Rishton.	Owned by the County Council.	Meeting and consultations every Tuesday afternoon. L.H.V. also attends daily during week to interview mothers and give advice.
School Clinic— High Street, Rishton.	Eye, Ear and Dental and Minor Ailments Clinic.	County Council.
Tuberculosis— Accrington Tuberculosis Dispensary.		County Council.
Venereal Diseases— Blackburn Royal Infirmary.	Out-patients Department. (Twice a week for	County Council. males and females).
Orthopædic Clinic— Rishton.		County Council.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1950

Age Periods Years.				NEW CASES				DEATHS			
				Respiratory		Non-Resp'ry		Respiratory		Non-Resp'ry	
				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—	...	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1—	...	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2—	...	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5—	...	...	...	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
10—	...	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15—	...	...	...	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
20—	...	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
25—	...	...	...	0	1	0	0	1—not notified			
35—	...	...	...	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
45—	...	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
55—	...	...	...	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65—	...	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
75 and upwards				0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals ...				3	1	2	1	1	1	0	0
				4		3		2		0	

Public Health Tuberculosis Regulations, 1930

Number of cases of Tuberculosis on the Register on the 31st December, 1950, is as follows :

Pulmonary.			Non-Pulmonary.			Total Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary.		
M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
21	10	31	7	9	16	28	19	47

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925

No action has been called for under the above regulations, which concerns tuberculosis employees in the milk trade.

—o—

Lethal Chamber

The following animals were destroyed during the financial year 1950-51 :

Dogs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	68
Cats	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	72
										£ s. d.
62 Dogs at 1/-	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 2 0
6 Dogs at 2/-	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 12 0
71 Cats at 1/-	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 11 0
1 Cat at 2/-	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 2 0
										£7 7 0

Refuse Collection

Refuse collected with Karrier Bantam Motor Vehicle. Disposal by controlled tipping. Five men carry out this work. Other duties include the emptying of pails, collections and packing of waste paper and the removal of carcasses of dogs and cats to the Knacker Yard at Whitebirk.

Sewage Disposal

Bacteriological (Biological) System.

The following works were carried out during the year :—

Effluent channels repairs and filter beds re-built.

Notifiable Diseases notified during year.

A table giving the number of infectious diseases notified during the year, also the ages at which cases occurred, is given below. The general incidence was low, except for measles and whooping cough, and no deaths occurred.

	Cases Noti- fied	Years								Hosp'l Cases
		Under 1	1— 3	5— 10	15— 25	25— 45	45— 65 and over			
Smallpox										
Scarlet Fever										
Diphtheria										
Enteric Fever										
Measles	6	2	3	1						
Whooping Cough	25	2	6	14	3					
Pneumonia	8	1	2	1	1	1				
Puerperal Pyrexia										
Cerebro-Spinal Fever										
Acute Poliomyelitis										
Acute Polio Encephalitis										
Encephalitis Lethargica ..										
Dysentery	34	20	9	2	1			2		
Ophthalmia Beonatorum..										
Erysipelas	3							3		
Malaria										
Pulmonary Tuberculosis..										
Non-Pulmonary										
Totals	76	3	30	27	7	1	2	1	3	2

Deaths in hospital of persons belonging to district—None.

Details of Salvage Collected and Sold During the Financial Year 1950-51

	£	s.	d.
58 tons 4 cwts. of Waste Paper	400	15	0

Closet Accommodation at end of 1950

Number of middens—none. Number of closets attached to middens—none.

Number of pail closets—29. Number of dry ashpits—none.

Number of movable ashbins—approximately 1,967.

Number of houses on water carriage system—1,939.

Number of fresh-water closets—808. Number of waste-water closets—1,109.

Conversions during 1950—127.

Sanitary Inspections during 1950

Number of premises visited—1,250.

Defects or nuisances—number discovered—422 ; number abated—408.

Number of notices served—informal—25 ; statutory—0.

No legal proceedings have been taken during the year.

Rodent Control (Infestation) Order, 1943

This scheme has continued with success. One part-time operator is employed. 42 infestations have been dealt with, and five maintenance treatments of the sewers during the year.

Treatments are carried out in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Agriculture.

The sewage system and refuse tip receive treatments at six-monthly intervals, and the success of these treatments have a considerable bearing on the surface infestations of rats.

Milk Supply

The milk produced within, or brought into the township, is on the whole of good quality.

The Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936.

Number of dealers' licences issued during 1948 in respect of :

Tuberculin Tested Milk	0
Accredited (Distribution)	0
Total number of Cowkeepers	26
Number on the Register	26
Number of Inspections during the year ...	10

Dairy farms, 26. Approximate number of cows in the district, 500.

Ice-cream

There are 15 premises registered for the manufacture or sale of ice-cream as follows :—

Premises registered for manufacturing ice-cream :—

1. Hot mix	2
2. Cold mix	0

Premises registered for the retail sale of ice-cream ... 13

Twenty inspections were made in connection with these registered premises during the year.

Unsound Food

The following foodstuffs have been condemned during the year as being unfit for human consumption :—

Milk	2 tins
Meat Loaf	2 „
Grapes	2 „
Luncheon Meat	98 „
Beef	172 lbs.
Fish, Wet	12 „
Frozen Egg	30 „
Pork and Veal	12 „

Four samples of milk were taken for tuberculosis during the year which were negative.

Other Foods.

Bakehouses (13 in number) and other premises where foods are manufactured, stored or exposed for sale, have been inspected from time to time and their condition found satisfactory.

Food and Drugs Adulteration (Food and Drugs Act), 1938.

Public Health (Condensed Milk) Reg., 1923-27.

Public Health (Dried Milk) Reg., 1923-27.

Public Health (Preservatives in Food) Reg., 1925-27.

The above are administered by the County Council. During the year 22 samples of milk were examined for quality ; all samples were sufficient in fats. 4 samples of milk were taken for Tuberculosis during the year, which were negative.

Shops Act, 1934

Shops were inspected under the above Act. There were no contraventions as regards ventilation and temperature or sanitary accommodation.

There are 131 such premises in the district.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Part I of the Act

1.—Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors) :

Premises	Number on Register	Inspec- tions	Number of Written notices	Occupiers prose- cuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	11 ..	9 ..	None ..	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	52 ..	40 ..	None ..	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Sec- tion 7 is enforced by the Local Authority †(excluding out- workers' premises)	— ..	— ..	— ..	—
Total	63 ..	49 ..	— ..	—

2.—Cases in which defects were found :

Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.4) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	2	2	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	1 (Works closed)				
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	3	2	—	1	—

Number of Premises.

Dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,733
Shops (lock-up)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Shops and Dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	140
Offices and Dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Hotels	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Off-Licence	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Farms (houses not included in first item)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Cotton Mills	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Paper Mill	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Electricity Generating Station	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Electricity Sub-Stations (one with office)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Felt and Carpet Weaving	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other Works	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Halls	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Churches	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Cinema	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Clubs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Clinic	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Public Buildings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Other Buildings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
										2,010

Smoke Abatement

The time limit allowed for the emission of black smoke, amended in 1929, is : 1 boiler, 4 minutes; 2 boilers, 5 minutes; 3 boilers, 6 minutes; 4 boilers, 7 minutes per hour.

There is no serious nuisance from the emission of black smoke. Six observations were made.

In conclusion, I desire to acknowledge the many kindnesses extended to me by the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee and Clerk of the Council, Medical Officer of Health, Collector, Surveyor, my staff, and other members who have assisted me in the discharge of my duties.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) C. WOODCOCK,

*Cert. Insp. of Meat & Other Foods.
Mem. Sanitary Inspectors' Assoc.*